

PHILADELPHIA TO NEW BRUNSWICK 1783

Two years ago I spent some time in St. Andrews New Brunswick. It was a beautiful seaside resort town on the Bay of Fundy. It was also the home from 1812 of a Loyalist Whitlock family. Many of the old loyalist homes are preserved and many have plaques on them stating which families built or lived in these residences. It was clear after a short walk around the town that, while the name Whitlock did not appear on these plaques, there were plenty of Whitlock connections. The first was the home of Harris Hatch. Harris Hatch and Ann Whitlock were married Jul.18,1808 Saint John, New Brunswick. There were other residences with the names Dunn and Hallett that had well known connections to the Whitlock family.

I spent some time in the local archives office and cemeteries and came away with useful material on the family, including many pictures and newspaper articles. While this gave me interesting information about the family it got me no closer to the origins of the family. In September 2000 there was a message on the GenForum from a Brian Hallett researching the Hallett family of New Brunswick and New York. In particular he was interested in Jane Hallett who married William Whitlock in the 1790's. William's parents, Thomas & Ann Whitlock were Loyalists who came to New Brunswick following the American Revolution.

Brian Hallett had done extensive research into the Hallett family of New Brunswick and because of the Whitlock connection he had also researched the Whitlock family. In sharing information with us he provided the clue we had been looking for since the 1960's. Thomas Whitlock's house in Prince William Street, Saint John is still there and the write up about it mentioned that the family was one of several Philadelphia families that brought their own "pre-fabricated" houses with them when they came in 1783. The reference to Philadelphia was the clue we needed. There were not a lot of Philadelphia Whitlocks and I was fairly easily able to determine that Thomas and Ann Whitlock were likely Thomas Whitelock and Anne Taylor who married at Christ Church, Philadelphia December 13, 1752. Thomas and Anne had four children between 1755 and 1760. Two died and it is not clear what happened to the others. Unfortunately the records stop in 1760 so their son William's birth about 1766 is not shown.

Thomas Whitelock is shown as a mariner in the Philadelphia records. He is taxed in 1774 and 1779-83 but is gone by 1784. There are also records showing Thomas Whitelock commanding the Brigantine Clements Apr.21,1762, Brigantine Eleanor Jul.26,1765, Schooner Nancy Jul.17,1770 and Schooner Snow Jane May 2,1773. Thomas Whitlock's ship Eleanor is shown arriving at Charlestown, South Carolina from Barbados Oct.12,1765 and again Jan.27,1767.

It is not clear if the Thomas Whitelock who is taxed at Turkeyfoot Twp. Bedford Co., Pennsylvania in 1774, 1776 and 1779 is the same Thomas or not.

There is quite a bit of New Brunswick information about Thomas Whitlock's early years in Canada but I have not dealt with that time period in this article. It is not clear where Thomas was born but he was likely born in the 1720-1730's, whether in America or England is not recorded. He does not appear to have had a connection to the Quaker Whitelocks from Leeds that lived in

Delaware and Pennsylvania. Hopefully further research will enlighten us.

SOURCES: X352/1; X399/8; X407; X2698/1; X3186; R192; R1307